Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Labor, after receiving testimony from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor.

APPROPRIATIONS: FOREIGN AID

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the United States Agency for International Development and foreign assistance programs, after receiving testimony from Randall L. Tobias, United States Director of Foreign Assistance, and Administrator, United States Agency for International Development.

APPROPRIATIONS: NAVY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the United States Navy, after receiving testimony from Donald C. Winter, Secretary, and Admiral Michael G. Mullen, Chief of Naval Operations, both of the United States Navy; and General James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury.

U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

Committee on Armed Services: On Tuesday, March 27, 2007, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities met in closed session to receive a briefing on Special Operations Command's global operations from Major General David J. Scott, USAF, Deputy Director, Center for Special Operations, United States Special Operations Command and sundry members thereof.

BUDGET: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the

Strategic Forces Program in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General James E. Cartwright, United States Marine Corps, Commander, United States Strategic Command, Major General Roger W. Burg, Director of Strategic Security, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters, United States Air Force, Rear Admiral Stephen E. Johnson, United States Navy, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, Naval Systems Command, and Brian R. Green, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Capabilities, all of the Department of Defense; and Thomas P. D'Agostino, Acting Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

BUDGET: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from David S.C. Chu, Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, and Stephen L. Jones, DHA, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, all of the Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Michael D. Rochelle, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff G-1, United States Army; Vice Admiral John C. Harvey, Jr., USN, Chief of Naval Personnel; Lieutenant General Ronald S. Colman, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; and Lieutenant General Roger A. Brady, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of James R. Clapper, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense, S. Ward Casscells, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and William Charles Ostendorff, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, and 2,600 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

COAST GUARD DIVE PROGRAM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded an oversight hearing to examine the future of the Coast Guard Dive Program, focusing on lessons learned from the accident on board CGC HEALY, and the steps taken to prevent future diving accidents, after receiving testimony from Rear Admiral Wayne Justice, Assistant Commandant for Response, and Real Admiral Paul Higgins, Director, Health and Safety Directorate, both of the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; and Rear Admiral Michael P. Tillotson, Deputy Director, Standing Joint Force Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command, United States Navy.

HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT SYSTEM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine transitioning from the Space Shuttle to a next generation Human Space Flight System, after receiving testimony from William H. Gerstenmaier, Associate Administrator, Space Operations, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Allen Li, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Ron Dittemore, ATK Launch Systems Group, Brigham City, Utah; John Karas, Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company, Littleton, Colorado; Johnny Walker, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Cape Canaveral, Florida; and Michael J. McCulley, United Space Alliance, Arlington, Virginia.

GOVERNMENT BUILDING OPERATIONAL COSTS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reducing government building operational costs through innovation and efficiency, focusing on legislative solutions, after receiving testimony from David L. Winstead, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration; Kateri Callahan, Alliance to Save Energy, Washington, D.C.; and Melanie Townshend, Gilbane Building Company, Arlington, Virginia, on behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America.

U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine risks and reform, focusing on the role of currency in the United States-China relationship, after receiving testimony from Senators Schumer and Graham; Stephen S. Roach, Morgan Stanley, New York, New York; Eswar S. Prasad, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; and Morris Goldstein, Peterson Institute for International Economics, and John H. Makin, American Enterprise Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported:

- S. 193, to increase cooperation on energy issues between the United States Government and foreign governments and entities in order to secure the strategic and economic interests of the United States;
- S. 613, to enhance the overseas stabilization and reconstruction capabilities of the United States Government;
- H.R. 1003, to amend the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 to reauthorize the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy;
- S. Res. 30, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the need for the United States to address global climate change through the negotiation of fair and effective international commitments;
- S. Res. 65, condemning the murder of Turkish–Armenian journalist and human rights advocate Hrant Dink and urging the people of Turkey to honor his legacy of tolerance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. Res. 76, calling on the United States Government and the international community to promptly develop, fund, and implement a comprehensive regional strategy in Africa to protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations, contain and reduce violence, and contribute to conditions for sustainable peace in eastern Chad, and Central African Republic, and Darfur, Sudan; and

The nominations of Paul J. Bonicelli, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Curtis S. Chin, of New York, to be United States Director of the Asian Development Bank, with the rank of Ambassador, Eli Whitney Debevoise II, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Zalmay Khalilzad, of Maryland, to be the Representative to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador and the Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative to the United Nations, Margrethe Lundsager, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, Katherine Almquist, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Douglas Menarchik, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. (Reappointment), Ford M. Fraker, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and a promotion list in the Foreign Service.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine No Child Left Behind Reauthorization, focusing on effective strategies for engaging parents and communities to be involved in schools, after receiving testimony from Anne T. Henderson, Annenberg Institute for School Reform, and Wendy Puriefoy, Public Education Network, both of Washington, D.C.; Daniel J. Cardinali, Communities In Schools, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia; Kathy Patenaude, Rhode Island Parent Teachers Association, Coventry; and Philip J. Ritter, Texas Instruments Incorporated, Dallas.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 223, to require Senate

candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form, with an amendment.

AFFORDABLE DRUG COVERAGE

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine affordable drug coverage that works for the state of Wisconsin, focusing on preserving Wisconsin's SeniorCare Program, after receiving testimony from Leslie V. Norwalk, Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle, Tom Frazier, Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, Patricia Finder-Stone, AARP Wisconsin, and Bette Linton, all of Madison, Wisconsin.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 27 public bills, H.R. 1725–1751; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 281–282, were introduced. Pages H3277–78

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H3278-79

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Baldwin to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today.

Page H3187

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rabbi Paul Silton, Temple Israel, Albany, New York.

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Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunity Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 835, to reauthorize the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing assistance for Native Hawaiians, by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 150 nays, with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 205. Debate began on Tuesday, March 27th.

Pages H3190-91, H3205-06

H. Res. 269, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Tuesday, March 27th.

Wounded Warrior Assistance Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 1538, to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, by a yea-and-

nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 208. Pages H3206-36

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Armed Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Page H3219

On a demand for a separate vote on a certain amendment agreed to in the Committee of the Whole:

By a yea-and-nay vote of 426 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 207, agreed to the Sestak amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that requires the Secretary of the Department of Defense to develop and implement a plan to help prevent Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other stress-related psychopathologies (including substance abuse conditions) from developing in our military service members (agreed to in the Committee of the Whole by a recorded vote of 434 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 206).

Pages H3227-28, H3231, H3233-34, H3234-35

Earlier, agreed to amendments in the Committee of the Whole:

Barrow amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–78) that eliminates the deductible and changes the method of determining the mileage reimbursement rate under the beneficiary travel program administered by the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs;

Pages H3224-25